

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method using a computer system for determining semantic
2 information of a lexical unit, comprising one or more words, said method comprising:
3 receiving said lexical unit by said computer system;
4 determining a stem of said lexical unit;
5 determining a type of said lexical unit; and
6 generating semantic information associated with said lexical unit, wherein said
7 semantic information is based on said stem and said type.

1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein said type is selected from a group
2 consisting of entity or event.

1 3. The method of claim 2 wherein when said type comprises an entity
2 type, said entity type is selected from a group consisting of simple or complex.

1 4. The method of claim 2 wherein when said type comprises an event
2 type, said event type is selected from a group consisting of simple or complex.

1 5. A method for generating a semantic lexical item from an input,
2 comprising one or more words, said method comprising:
3 receiving said lexical entry by a computer, said computer comprising a
4 processor;
5 determining category information of said input;
6 determining a stem of said input;
7 determining a type of said input;
8 generating said semantic lexical item associated with said stem, wherein said
9 semantic lexical item, comprises said type and said category information; and
10 storing said semantic lexical item in a storage system coupled to said
11 processor.

1 6. The method of claim 5 wherein said type is selected from a group
2 consisting of entity or event.

1 7. The method of claim 5 wherein said category includes information
2 associated with a grammatical element.

1 8. The method of claim 7 wherein said grammatical element is selected
2 from a group consisting of noun, verb, adjective, adverb, or pronoun.

1 9. A method for displaying a stage in the natural language compilation of
2 an utterance, comprising one or more words, said method comprising:
3 receiving the utterance by a natural language system;
4 determining a semantic item associated with the utterance; and
5 displaying the semantic item.

1 10. The method of claim 9 wherein the semantic item comprises a
2 syntactic-semantic composition.

1 11. The method of claim 9 further comprising displaying a parse tree
2 associated with the utterance.